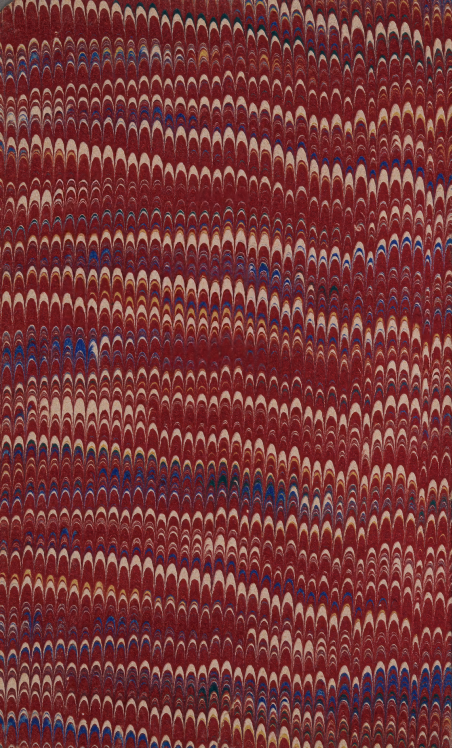
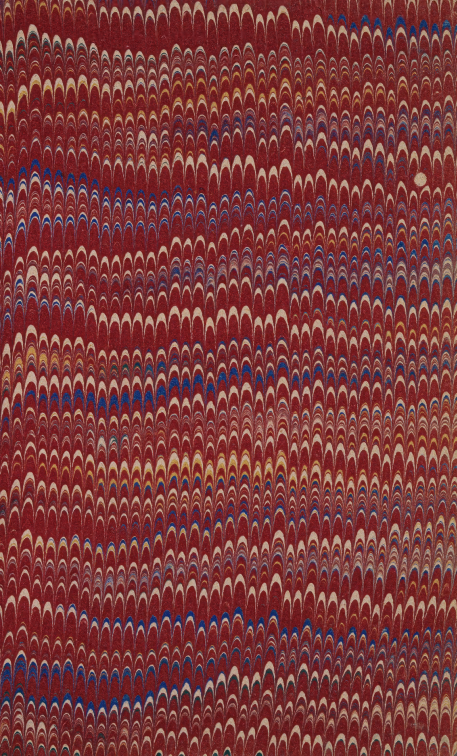


Kermadec Islands
1887





Friday. Bay 7 to.

Sat. at Sea

Sunday + together blind

Monday - Sanding to. N. side

Tuesday "

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

out ship hull

ammunition

crabbers

Wednesday

Conrad W Bay

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Kermadec Islands.
Aug. 1887

Nells on the island of. years. further another, 4 cons + 5 dry Nells.

Left Russell wharf for the Kermadec Islands
at 2.15 pm on Friday, August 12th
South west breeze, with occasional rain
squalls - in fact the same weather which had
been experienced for about a week. On
clearing Cape Brett, the wind shifted to the
South, with a little easterly, and a strong
sea was experienced. The sun being nearly
beam on, the Stella rolled considerably,
and about nightfall her course was
altered a few points to the west
so as to bring the swell more astern.
Little of interest occurred during the
night - the swell continued to increase,
and at daybreak a strong sea was running.
The Stella dropping large pieces of ice over
over her stern. Few birds were seen -
Mollymawks, probably *Diomedea melanoleuca*,
a few Cape Pigeons, and a black Petrel,
probably *P. Parkmanni* No true

Albatrosses and none of the smaller
Petrels. The sea continued the whole
of Saturday, but during the night it
fell a little, and on Sunday morning
it was calmer than we had experienced
it during the voyage, although still rough.
An observation was taken about 9 o'clock,
when it was estimated that the Stella
was about 60 miles west of Curtis
Island. Our course was altered to
leeward, and about noon the island was
seen. At 3 o'clock the steamer had
pretty closely approached it. It was
seen to be composed of two almost
bare rocks, the eastward one the smallest,
and separated from the main island
by a clear channel about — yds
wide. The larger one was about 500 ft
high - precipitous at both the west &
east ends. Towards the north, the

central part of the island sloped steeply
and almost precipitously down into
a crater, the sea side of which was
formed by a ridge of low irregular
hills, too high however, to allow a
look into the bed of the crater. Several
puffs of steam rose from the bottom of the
crater, and from several fissures on
the sides, one of these being almost on
the top of the island. A good deal
of the crater wall was bare rock,
but on the slopes some bright green
grass growing in tufts and patches
could be seen, and apparently a coarser
and more luxuriant kind grew
intermixed with it. No signs of
stratification could be observed on the
cliffs, the rock comprising them being
apparently very homogeneous in appearance.
The steamer steamed in to within a couple

of cable lengths from the front of the
crater when a decided smell of sulphur
could be perceived. Night coming on,
some soundings were taken to ascertain
whether it would be safe to anchor
off the island, and several soundings
ranging from 25 to 40 fathoms
being obtained, with a bottom of
fine volcanic gravel, the anchor
was at length dropped in 25 fathoms.
I should have stated that the sea
was much too heavy to think of
landing, even if there had been
time before dark. We hoped, however,
that the wind and swell would
drop during the night, and that a
landing might be effected at daylight.
The night was fine, and our vessel
lay very quietly at her anchor,
although occasionally a few rollers

Coming round the east end of island
would catch her. At daylight the
anchor was hove in, and the Steamer taken
right up to within ~~the~~ cable lengths of the
rocks in front of the crater, where apparently
the best landing could be obtained. The
swell, however, was still too high for
anything of the kind to be attempted, although
a nice little boat harbour, with a narrow
entrance ~~at the~~, was seaward at the extreme
west end of the opening into the crater.
In moderate weather very good landing
could be effected there, but with the
high sea running at the time now
and then a breaker would break
right across the entrance, so that Capt.
Fairchild was of opinion that it would not
be wise to risk an attempt. The Steamer
was now taken through the channel
between the two islands, which was

evidently deep and free from all dangers. We then coasted along the south side of the island, and turning round the eastern end, turned our course for Macanby Island, the next of the group, distant about 20 miles.

The two islands known under the name of Curtis are mere rocks, with precipitous sides, and with no vegetation except patches of grass, so far as could be ascertained from the deck of the steamer. They may be said to be of no use whatever, and landing would always be difficult, except in very clear & smooth weather. In fact the ^{main} island is little more than the rim of a crater, with steep walls on all sides but the north, where it is broken down. There seems to be a continual escape of

steam from the bottom of the crater, and sometimes it would rise to a considerable height. Besides this, puffs were every now & then escaping from fissures on the sides, and, as has been already mentioned, there is no steam yet almost on the very top. In places the rocks were stained and discoloured as if with a recent outbreak of mud, and I fancied that some of the vegetation was burned brown in places. If these suppositions are correct, there must have been a more pronounced outbreak a little while back. On the crest of the island some large white birds could be observed sitting on the ground - probably Muttonbirds, or perhaps Albatrosses, for they looked rather large for Muttonbirds. Capt. Sarsfield also saw what he considered to be Gannets, but of this I am not

at all were. Besides these, I saw
large flocks of small grey petrel - possibly
a Brown - flying about the rocks and also
on the water, but never near enough to
enable the species to be identified. —

Two hours were brought us to
Macarabay Island. This has a very
different appearance to Curtis Island,
the outline being much smoother on top. It is
also much larger - apparently four or five
times. The highest part is towards
the N. W., where there is a precipitous
bluff at least 200 ft high, and then
more gradually ascending to a further
height of 100 ft, forming what looked
at first below appeared very much like
a conical cone. From the top of this
"cone" the island sloped very gradually
to the S. E. end, where the cliffs
might be 50 ft high. These cliffs

were continuous all along the S. face
of the island, so that even if a
landing were effected on the rocks
at the foot it would be impossible
to get to the top of the island. The
face of the cliffs was evidently stratified
so that the rock is probably a Tuff
of some kind. The S. slope, which
here and there has a few shallow
gullies, is covered pretty closely with
grass, with here and there bushes
of what appeared to be *S. S. Flax*,
(*Phormium*). On the face of the cliffs
were a few green bushes, probably
Coprosma *lanceolata*.

Turning round the N. W. Point, the
sloop steamed under the lee of the island,
along the N. coast. This like the southern
one, was a line of high cliffs, gradually
decreasing in height to the eastern end.

The lower part of the cliffs was composed of a black basaltic looking lava, which at the extreme W. point was seen to be mostly columnar. The middle part, and much the largest, was composed of a pale greyish-white rock, possibly a trachytic tuff. The distinction between this and the black rocks below was very clear and marked. On the very top of the cliffs was another black band of dark colored lava, but comparatively thin compared with the other two. On one place this had streamed down a notch on to the bench below, and in this locality there was apparently the best place of reaching the smooth grassy top of the island, although even here the climb ~~to~~ would be a stiff one. At the extreme east end of the island was a detached rock, to

which appeared the same pale upper
rock, and dark lower one, but dipping
in the other direction. The channel
between was partly filled with rocks,
and broke heavily for the greater part
of the distance across. The whole of
the lee side of the island was examined
for landing, but the surf was everywhere
too heavy. Soundings were taken,
from 30 to 20 fathoms. We now
decided to bear up for Sunday Island,
as it was evidently impossible to do anything
with the smaller ones until the weather
moderated. On leaving Bransley
Island we passed an outlying rock
just awash, about 2 miles off. This is
not laid down in any chart. I
should say that we discovered a number
of goats on the island.

(Aug 15)

Leaving Inocentay Island, the Steamer
was headed for Raoul or Lundy
Island, the most northern and
largest of the group. It lies about
60 miles to the northward of Inocentay.
About 4 o'clock we had reached Denham
or W. Bay, where the American whalers
lived for so many years, ~~and~~ - It
is a long sandy bay about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles
long, backed behind by a rugged
mountain chain, with almost precipitous
wall-like face towards the Bay. There
appeared to be a fringe of lived land
between the sand and the foot of
this ridge, which so far as we could
see from the Steamer, was covered
with Ngais. As we supposed that
Mrs Bell lived in this bay, the Steamer
entered it, ~~the~~ sailing as she
steamed along, and when a breast of

In the middle the whistle was sounded. There was no response, and as the heavy southerly sea raised such a surf on the beach as to make it impossible to land, we decided to steam to an anchorage on the north side of the island. Steaming round the steep bluff forming the Cochrane W. point of the island, and marked on the chart as Cape Hutchinson, we moved rapidly along the north shore. Keeping close in. This part of the island looked much better, large groves of Palms & Fern trees could be seen, and at length we reached a point where there were visible traces of cultivation. A little further on, we came in sight of 2 or 3 small bays, at the W end of a low sandy beach,

and we at once came to the conclusion
that the Bell's presence was there. A
little before this, as our great empire
saw a steamer anchored a mile or two
further on, off the point marked in the
chart as Cape Rayner, with her boat
along a rocky point, and the crew
engaged in loading them with firewood.
We at once came to the conclusion that
the steamer had run short of coal,
and had called at the island to
take in a stock of wood. We
decided to steam over her, and
soon found that our supposition
was correct. She proved to be the
steamer Richmond, bound from
Rarotonga to Auckland. Through some
unaccountable mistake, her
coal had been shipped, and the
steamer had been compelled

to run for the island. She had had
very stormy weather, and on arriving
at the island had considerable difficulty
in getting the timber off on the first
day - one of her boats being swamped.
The Captain - who joined to the *McGillivray*,
once in charge of the "Hawick", but who
had lost his berth through lameness,
soon boarded us, and at once asked
to be supplied with a little coal, as he
felt sure that the timber he had
already on board was not sufficient,
and he feared the results of a further
detention would be to lose the greater
part of his stock of fire, which was
valued at £1000. Besides this, he
was afraid of his provisions running
out. As the steamer was evidently
in a serious fix, Capt Fauschold agreed
to see what coal could be spared.

and the Capt. went on board his
vessel again, with the intention of
returning with the owners, Messrs Donald
and Edentrough, who were both on
board. He shortly came again with
both Mr Donald and after some further
conversation, it was agreed to give
him 10 or 15 tons of coal, some
oil, and certain provisions of which
he had run short. At first, it
was agreed to commence transshipping
the coal at once, but the Kanika
crew of the Richmond had been hard
at work the whole of the day, from
daylight, in fact, and were worn out
and flatly refused to work all night
so well. So it was decided to
run the little close alongside the
other boat in the morning, and
move the coal then. At the

invitation of Mr Donald, Mr Smith
and myself went on board the Richmond
and had a glass of champagne in
the cabin, also had a look at the
vessel, which was very well fitted
up for a boat of her size - 750
tons. On coming off, 5 cases of
oranges, a considerable number of
bananas, and some shells were
forwarded as a present to Tanehiti
and ourselves. We soon commenced
to lessen the number of the oranges.

10

Tuesday. Aug. 17. Early in the
morning all was bustle. Breakfast was
over shortly after 7, and immediately afterwards
the Stella was moved close alongside the
Richmond, and the work of transshipping
the coal commenced. We landed on the
ward at about 8 o'clock, getting ashore with

little difficulty at a rocky point called
Cape Rayner on the shore, but locally
known as Fisherman's Rock. On getting
ashore, we met Mr Bell, two of his
daughters, and 2 boys. They had a
Cruiser appearance - being dressed in blue
cotton like garments, with no boots or
stockings, notwithstanding the rough
beach & country generally. As Mr
Smith wished to make for the highest
peak, we arranged with Mr Bell to
send one of his boys with us as a
guide. On leaving the landing place
we followed the beach for a short
distance, and then entered a small
gully, by following which we reached
a spur leading to the top of the island.
We soon found the island to be very
rough, travelling very awkward, both from
the steepness of the hills and the

X

Density of the vegetation. The bush is principally composed of *Metrosideros polymorpha*. This has much the same mode of growth as our *Potentillanone*, but is not quite so large, and the stem is usually not quite so jointed and twisted; although on the steep ridges it is common enough to see it jointed enough - and sometimes the stem would give rise to several trunks at the base - sometimes spreading out horizontally at the base for a short distance. The leaves are smaller and rounder and the flowers smaller than our *Potentillanone*. On Karaka is also not uncommon ~~also~~ *Metrosideros* *terrestris*, *Myoporum laetum*, and a species of *Myrsine* which appears to be new, *Dracopis* ^{*Piper* sp.} *ramiflorum*. But perhaps the commonest here after the *Potentillanone* is a Palm,

which appears to me to be the same
as the Norfolk Island *Oreca Baueri*.
This much larger than our *Dickson*,
with a stouter cleaner stem, broader
leaflets, and very much larger branches
of fruit, ~~which are~~ The berries
are larger, and quite globose. Ferns
are everywhere plentiful. The most
conspicuous are 1st a fine Fern
tree, *Cyathea milnei*; *Pteris comans*,
which attains 6 or 7 ft in height;
Aspidium aristatum, *Lomaria*
attenuata, etc. On reaching the
main spur, we looked into the
old crater - a huge affair, probably
1 1/2 mile in diameter, surrounded
every where with steep and often
precipitous walls. Towards the
sea this wall or ridge is the lowest,
but even there must be at least 100.

ft above sea level. The highest peak
on the island is to the south east of
the crater, and is marked as being
16400 ft. It was to ascend this
that we were bound. ~~After reaching~~
Occupying the lowest part of the
old floor of the crater, and nearest
the sea, is an almost circular
lake, perhaps $\frac{1}{2}$ mile in diameter,
and evidently representing a
secondary crater placed inside the
main one. Further to the south,
another smaller lake, of irregular
shape, was placed. This was the
crater that was in eruption in
1868 (?) and the surrounding flat
and hill slopes were still covered
with the volcanic ashes, sand, &
mud then thrown out, and on
many parts of which vegetation

had hardly commenced to grow.
In fact the tract of country immediately
surrounding the second lake recalled
to ones mind the desolate mud
covered hills about Icaravera and
Pertomahana. Continuing our ascent
of the mountain, we soon found the
Pohutukawas to become larger, the
palms and fern-trees more numerous
and more luxuriant. Some of the
latter were quite lofty in height.
A few additional plants appeared.
Oscarina lucida? - which seems
to me to be different from our
H. I. plant; also *Coprosma acutifolia*,
although this latter plant is also
plentiful at sea level. *Panax*
arborescens, and a few *Hymenophyllum*
Daviesii was now seen on the
trunks of the fern trees, together

with *Trichomanes venosum*, and *Lomaria attenuata* and *Nephrodium decussonii* were also very plentiful. *Lomaria procera* was also very plentiful. This vegetation was continued quite to the top of the peak, with no alteration of importance.

On descending the hill, we found that the coaling of the Richmond was just about completed. A boat was sent from the "Stella" to Fisher's rock to take us off, and we reached the steamer just in time to witness the departure of the Richmond. Our vessel gave a parting salute by blowing her steam siren - This the Richmond replied to by blowing her steam whistle when fairly outside the Chanter Islands.

Wednesday - August 16th. It was
settled that on this day formal
possession should be taken of
the island as a dependency of
H. L. So shortly after 7 o'clock,
the largest boat was lowered,
~~and~~, manned by a crew of sailors
and steered by Fairchild himself
to the shore. We landed on
the sandy bay just to the eastward
of Fleetwood Bluff, and just
below the residence of the
Bell family. Our sailors dragged
a flagstaff to a knoll just in
front of the dwellings, erected it,
and ran the ensign of England
was fluttering in the wind. The
Bell family were then called to
the foot of the flagstaff, and
the Lieut. then read the proclamation

formally annexing the island. ~~The~~
~~present then signed them~~ The names
of all present were then formally
taken down as witnesses, and
three hearty cheers were given.

In the meantime our Photographer,
Mr Hazard, had taken a couple
of photographs of the scene. This
work being finished the party
separated - Capt Garfield and
his men to ^{load} bag off some wool
to be shipped by the steamer, Mr
Smith and his two assistants
to commence their surveying operations,
and myself to fortify.

Before going further, it is as
well to say that the Bell family
have resided on the island for
9 years. Besides the father &
mother, there are nine children,

The five eldest were girls, apparently
from 16 to 25 years old, the four younger
boys, the youngest girl being a baby
about a year old. — Their
costume was primitive. The girls wore
cotton dresses, very loose, and just
confined at the waist with a belt.
They had no hat or bonnet, but
a small shawl on their heads.
Of boots or stockings nothing
was seen, and Mr. Bell himself
went in the same light clothing.
The girls and boys were very well
spoken, and we learnt that they
were taught by an old Schoolmaster,
the only other person on the island.
The greater part of the work — attending
to the goats & sheep, of which they
kept quite a number — lay —
working on the cultivations — fishing,

boating, etc., appeared to be done by
the girls.

The coast plants noticed as we walked
along the beach were mostly N. Z. species.
Loelia anceps was very plentiful, a broad
leaved form. *Presembryanthemum australe*
and *Tetragonia expansa*, *Spergulum australe*
and *Lonchocarpus densus* were all common
on the cliffs. Masses of *Coprosma*
petiolata occurred, and here and there the
handsome white-flowered, sweet-scented
Scaevola gracilis. On the sandy bay
in front of the Bell's residence the
sands were covered with huge masses
of a trailing *Convolvulus* new to me. Its
creeping stems were often 20 yards in
length. The sand hills themselves were fringed
with *Scaevola*, which is everywhere the common
tree on the beaches, and rapidly takes
possession of the deserted cultivations.

On the terrace above Mr. Bell's house
an abandoned cultivation was as
near as possible a mass of *Physalis*.
Other common weeds were *Cotula australis*
Eragrostis, *Solanum nigrum*, *Cyperus*
rotundifolius, *Senecio coronopifolius*, *Euphorbia*
peplus, *Geranium conjugiale*, *Platania indica*
Fumaria officinalis, *Cerastium vulgatum*
Veronica peregrina, *Mentha*, *Grapholium*
involutum. R

Behind this old cultivation is a little
valley, well sheltered by a low ridge on
the east, and a much higher one on
the west. It was occupied by an old
banana plantation. Here the bananas
grew from 15 to 25 ft in height, many
of the leaves being 6-8 ft long, or more.
They had rather a torn and ragged
appearance, which Mr. Bell told us
was to be attributed to a violent westerly

gate which occurred a few days before our arrival. The stems of the bananas were nearly as thick as a man's waist. But little fruit could be seen - possibly the season was too early. Mixed with the bananas were some trees of an urticaceous plant new to me, and to the sides were fine plants of *Cladium*, which here grows 20-30 ft high, with a slender trunk and few slender branches. We obtained flowering specimens here. The undergrowth in the banana plantation was chiefly composed of *Pteris cornuta*, growing 5-7 ft high, and with much larger fronds than are ever seen in N. Z.

Leaving the Banana plantation, I struck down to the top of the cliffs, and walked towards the W. end of the island.

Close to the edge of the cliffs, the principal
vegetation was low bushes of *Rapier*,
covered over with immense masses of
Lycro angulatus. The open places were
covered with *Cyperus notulatus*, which
to me seems a little different from
the N. Z. form. A little way on, we
reached the mouth of a deep ravine.
At the mouth a few tufts of
Ptilosporum crassifolium were observed
~~but~~ and two or three tropical
grasses new to me were also collected.
Walking up the ravine, *Leptocarpum*
molle, *Diploteris* sp (sect. *Diploteris*)
and a few species of *Leptocarpum*
new to me were gathered. All fern
tufts were very plentiful, and the
ubiquitous *Pilea comans* was everywhere
seen, growing 6-8 to 10 ft high, and
with enormous panicle.

Ascending the cliff at the mouth
of the ravine one reached some cultivations
of the Belles. The vegetation had been
chiefly composed of Palms. These had
been cut down about 15 or 20 ft above
the ground, the surface adzed over,
and planted with fragments of
Bor. pretensis, in many places set in
straight lines so as to give the appearance
of being blonghet in. Further on
I came to patches of maize, an
enclosed garden with cabbages, lettuce,
onions, etc, surrounded with hedges of
Germans & Citrons. Fine plants of the
double Hibiscus, of Papaw, and of
the coral tree were very ornamental.
Further back were gulches in which
young banana & Iro plantations had
been formed. Here I turned back
and made my way to the Belles.

house to join the Survey party, who
by this time were ready to return to
the ship. —

Thursday, August 19th —

It had been arranged that the
first work should be to land on the
Meyer Island to take Magnetic bearings.
So at 7 o'clock we had breakfast, and
before eight we landed in a little
boat harbor on the west side of the
island. We then made for the top of the
island, by a rather steep ascent. The
vegetation was principally composed of
Heads, but there were also plenty of ferns
of *Polypodiaceae*, and a few *Caraxes*.
The whole island was on Tuesday blown
for petrels. The species of porpoise
had nearly reached its young, they
being almost fully grown. It occurred

to make no burrows, but to deposit
its egg - a single one - on the bare
ground. Young birds were scattered
about all over, and on our approach
screamed out loudly, opening their mouths,
and flapping their wings. The other
species, which appeared to be the same
as Gould's *P. macrurus*, lately found
by Benschoten in the Ken + Chukens,
formed burrows, and laid its egg
there. It had not yet hatched its
young. Mr Bell informed us that in the
breeding season, the height of which
would be about October, great numbers of
sea birds bred on the islands, which
in fact were at that time in vast
rookery. Among others the tropic bird,
wise-monks, and several others which
I could not identify from his description.
Parakeets were exceedingly plentiful

and hopped about everywhere. Sometimes
in the ground, and sometimes on
the trees. They were certainly not
allowing one to approach quite close
to them, and the Bell's boys & girls
scared them by screams of & worse
of words uttered at the end of a
branch. Several were caught alive by
them during our stay and given alive
to the Captain. We were also told about
a little black bird about the size of
the G.2. Red but I was not
fortunate enough to get a glimpse of
it. On returning down the hill
I collected the foliage and seeds of
a leguminous tree creeper, the pods
of which were from 3-4 inches long
by $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch broad. I have no idea
what species it is. The Bell's boys &
told me that it also occurs on the

Coast of the main island.

After having dinner on board, we landed at Fisherman's Rock, and skirted up the ridge between the sea & the main crater, and then descended by a steep track to the margin of the large lake. The vegetation up to the margin of the lake was precisely the same as that found in ascending the ridge on our first day's journey - nearly the whole of the forest was composed of *Polystichum*, *Agave*, *Cecropia*, *Malvaceae*, *Malvaceae* and *Mycorrhiza*. On steep places going down to the lake *Scaevola* was pretty abundant. On the flat by the margin of the lake there was a great abundance of *Conium*. The lake itself was very shallow at the margin, and a good deal of pumice was bobbing up and down on the shore. The 1st March

plant noted was *Lypha*, a very
narrow leaved variety. Before the
eruption of 1868. But need not doubt
to cover the whole surface of the lake,
but leave on signs of it on this
occasion. The large lake was separated
from the second lake by a narrow
ridge, and there was only about 30 ft
difference in their height, the large
lake being 40 ft above sea level, and
the smaller one about 10. Mr
Bell assumed us that the water of the
second lake was mineral, but it
was quite tasteless. Evidently the
second lake had been the crater for
the eruption of 1868, for the hills all
around were thickly covered with
a deposit of volcanic sand and sand,
and vegetation had not commenced to
grow on that portion near the

Lake. On the sides the dead & bleached trunks of *Kobulakawa*, stood up, half buried in the sand. On the west side of the lake, and on a little bay on the precipitous cliffs bounding the lake on that side was a small cave. This was very quiet but with hot steam escaping from fissures in the rock, and a peculiar whitish deposit had formed in the rock. Several clefts and fissures in the rock in the neighbourhood were also giving off hot steam. Returned by the other side of the lake, seeing *Sphagnum cuscutaceum* & *Lycopodium commune* to the flat, but in small quantity. A smaller lake was said to exist on the north, about halfway into from the second lake, but we had not time to examine it.

The edge of hills bounding all the
lakes, and which makes a complete
circle, evidently represents the crater
wall of a huge crater more than $1\frac{1}{4}$
mile in diameter, on the floor of which
the lakes are placed.

Tuesday, August 20th. During the
previous night the wind had chopped
round to the N. E., and being our
anchorage rather insecure, and at daylight
or a swell was commencing to roll
in, it was decided to shift to the
other end of the island. As a move
was made to that end as the extreme
^{east} end of the island, and the steamer
was anchored close under a projecting
point. We landed, and climbed up
to the top of the point, but little fresh
in the plant was observed.
Condoreros *Aspidandea* was noticed on

the beach, as well as *Sandus*.
and a few plants of *Vernonia*
therefore the *Cyperus* *hawaiiensis*.
As our anchorage was rather insecure,
we decided to shift to West Bay,
and so steamed round, arriving there
about three or four o'clock. There
we found Mr. Bell and his eldest
daughter & son Jimmy, and as it
was coming so dark, we took them
on board the steamer in order to
save them the wet walk over
the hills back.

Saturday, Aug 21. Loaded in West
Bay after dark past, although the
rain kept falling in heavy showers.
Walking the vegetation very wet and
disagreeable to walk through. West Bay
is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile long, & from sandy
beach very steep towards the sea.

The waves roll in on the beach
with great force, and landing is
generally impracticable except at the
ends of the beach, which are a little
sheltered by the rocks. We landed at
the east end. The flat behind the
beach varies from a few hundred
yards wide to nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Near
the centre is a lagoon now altogether
grown up with *Euphorbia*, interspersed
with a little *Sonchis procera* in
places. Near the sandy beach there
is an almost continuous row of *Potamogeton*
and *Hyacinth* which served to shelter
the flats from the westerly gale,
which evidently blew in with considerable
force. Pretty nearly the whole of
the middle part of the flat had been
cultivated at one time, and
seemed to have been worn out. It

And now covered with a dense growth
of *Lagerströmia conopsea*, with here
there patches of *Phytolacca* and
Euphorbia. A *Verbascum* plant, indeed
an outcast from some garden was
also not uncommon. Large patches of
a *Heptastemon* were seen in several
places, some of them being quite
quarters of an acre in size. In the
west at the foot of the cliffs bordering
the flat, and which rise nearly
perpendicularly for the whole length of
the flat. *Psidium* *virgatum* was
plentiful, and of great size. At
the very foot of the cliffs huge masses
of *Phytolacca* *conopsea* & *Heptastemon* *virgatum*
made travelling very difficult. A
little way up the cliff stream could
be observed arising from behind a
rock, and a little higher up *Agave*

more steam could be seen ascending
from a hollow behind a small
spur of the hill. We made an
attempt to climb up, but failed
owing to the earth & vegetation being
so wet and slippery from heavy
rain. About the middle of the
flat, we found the remains of the
house occupied by Kelstead. The
first settles on the island, not
far away in a little notch behind
the sand hills bordering the beach
was the grave of young Deane,
the son of Capt Deane, who surveyed
the island in the "Herald" in 1854.
The brass inscription plate was still
quite legible. At the other end of
the beach - the west end - was
the house in which the Kelsteads lived
before they crossed the water to

their present quarters, and close to
it the playground created by H.M.S.
Diamond when she took formal
possession of the island last year.

Sunday, Aug 22. In the morning, we
found that a heavy swell was running
round the western end of the bay,
tossing our vessel about a little. Thinking
that the wind was chopping round to the
west, which is a very unsafe quarter
for West Bay, we got up anchor,
and steamed back to our old quarters
at Boat Cove, at the extreme east
of the island. Here we anchored, and
the stern of the vessel was also
made fast to the corals on the beach
with a mooring line. But after
dinner, the wind suddenly chopped
round to the S.E., and a heavy sea

Began to rain with the Cove, heavy
rain falling at the same time.
we had to get up anchor at once, and
as the sea was too heavy to allow
a man to land, the morning line was
cut close to the breakers. We steamed
to the little cove on the west side
of Meyer Island, and found very
comfortable quarters for the night.

Monday. August 23.

After breakfast landed, and
proceeded to Mr. Bell's house in order
to examine the plantations on the
terrace to the west of his house, and
passed look at which I had had on
the previous Wednesday. We passed
through the Roman grass, and grass
fields situated in the rear of that
day's work, and then went to the point of view.

on. Here we came across a splendid
little grove of candle nut trees (*Alseodaphne*
tuberosa). Some of the trees were 40-50
ft high, with a trunk inc. 2 ft 6 inches
in diameter. The ground below was
covered with the nuts a number of
which we collected. A little inland from
this several scattered *Psidium* trees
were observed, evidently identical with
the *Psidium* of B.C. and Fiji.
Returning to our house, we had some
refreshment - Baked' button birds, and
Yams, with tea & goats milk. The
button birds, it appeared, we collected
as soon as they are fully grown, but
before they are fledged. They are
killed to get the down off, then
split in two and cleaned, and
salted, afterwards they are smoked
a little and then breaded with broken

and preserved in their own fat,
they did not taste bad, but were
rather too fat. The boiled yams
were very good indeed, but should
have tasted better if a little salt
had been on the table. After
this we had a look at the ~~old~~
flat behind his house, but there
was little of interest in the way
of plants, the most noteworthy being
a grass with a long spike which
acts as a thorn, catching at one's
clothes.

131
Tuesday, Aug 24.

Ascended to the top of the hill
on the back to west bay, but found a
little scrubby except *Smilax* and
Forsteria and a few young plants of
Lycopodium *Bellardieri*. After

coming down, went to the about the
west end of the island, but observed
nothing fresh except *Spongia pectinata*
on the cliffs. — At nine o'clock
Steam was got up, and the *Stella*
left for Mendenhall Island, firing
three rockets and sounding her steam
steam siren as a parting to the
Beck. —

Sunday Island was discovered by
Almond D'Entrecasteaux on March 15. 1793
It lies in the "Kavattis" and in the
wind must depend which of the anchorages
should be chosen. The East anchorage
affords excellent hook & line fishing. ~~The~~
This island was surveyed by Capt. Wm.
Benham, R.N. in 1854 ascended by
Lieut. J. Hutchinson, Lt. Smith, Master
E. Wilde, F. Pearson & F. Hornsby.
Seems correct — chart 568.

The west extremity of the island is called
Hutchinson bluff, and is very high and
precipitous. From thence the north
coast runs in a nearly straight line
with cliffs gradually decreasing in
height until Floodwood bluff is reached
just to the W. of where Bell resides. There
is then a sandy bay more than $\frac{1}{2}$ mile
long, with a few small sand hills at
the back. After that the coast becomes
rocky and precipitous, composed of a
volcanic conglomerate, with a rough boulder
beach at its foot. This extends as far
as Rayner Point, known to the Bells
as Fisherman's Rock. Here a stream of
lava has flowed down a crack into
the sea, and formed a bit of a
point with deep water alongside.
This point gives the best landing
on the island, and can be used

for all winds ~~from~~ except from a
little to the north of west to N. E.
The anchorage off the line of coast is
called the North anchorage in Benbow's
chart, and good holding ground can
be obtained in from 5-15 to 20 fathoms.
Passing Rayner Point the coast trends
towards the S. W. ~~towards~~ as far as
Rash Point. The beach is rough and
rocky for the whole distance, with
cliffs for almost the whole distance.
To the N. E. lie a number of small
islands called the Herald Islets.
The largest and most westerly of these
is called Meyer Island on the chart,
and consists of 2 islets separated by
a very narrow rift. The northern
portion of the island is the highest,
being laid down on the chart as
being 371 ft high. On the western side

is the little boat cove already mentioned.
To the north of Meyer Island are two
rocks called Raper Island & Hygent
Island. To the east of Meyer Island
is a group of 4 rocks called the
Chantee Islands, and to the north of
these another rock called Bayrell
Island. In the basin between
the Herald Isles and the shore lies
what Denham calls the East
Anchorage, depth varying from 12
to 25 fathoms. Passing Nash
Point, the extreme easterly point
of the Island, the next point is
St. Aray Point, bearing about S.W.
Between is a semicircular Bay,
called S.E. anchorage. This anchorage
is close on shore, as there is 60-30
fathoms in a straight line between
the 2 points.

At the north end of this bay is the
Boat Cove in which we took our
steamer, and which must be a
snag place in a westerly breeze, being
partly sheltered by some rocks
called Melno Islands. Passing
Smith D'Arcy Point, the coast
bends a little to the south of
W to Smith Bluff, very rough,
bouldery and precipitous.

Smith Bluff is the southern termination
of Denham or West Bay, the northern
headland being Hatchinson Bluff,
from which we started, and which
bears nearly N. W. from Smith Bluff.
Off Smith Bluff is Parsons Rock,
on which there is always a heavy
break. At the head of Denham
Bay is a sandy beach $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile
long, on which a heavy surf rolls in

but on which something can generally be made at one end or the other except with winds from N. W. & S. In the middle of the Bay is Wolverine Rock, with $1\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms water in it. Barber's Bay forms the W. anchorage, and is principally serviceable with a S. E. or E. wind.

The whole of the island is very hilly and broken. Starting from Kalkineca Bluff, a steep ridge, with an average height of 1000 to 1200 ft, runs in an easterly direction, with a steep face to the south, in fact forming so precipitous a wall towards Barber's Bay, that there is no practicable path up it. The highest peak on this ridge is just to the east of the lagoon in Great Bay, and in fact does so 1520 ft.

Beyond this peak, the ridge runs on in a southerly direction, then curves round to the east and north east, forming the wall of the large central crater of the island. The precipitous side is now to the south of the ridge, or towards the crater, and is very nearly, though not quite as steep as towards West Bay. The floor of the crater is moderately level, and as previously described, contains three lakes one large one, and two smaller. These no doubt represent old craters within the large one. The floor of the crater is separated from the sea by a narrow steep ridge about 500 ft high. The most southern point of the ridge bounding the crater rises to a peak 1548 ft high, but the

highest peak on the island is on the east side of the crater and is put down as 1632 ft. From the 1548 peak a ridge runs down to South Bluff, and there is a similar ridge running to Beach Point from the point on the crater wall a little to the north of the 1632 peak.

There is very little level land on the island. The largest stretch is that in West or Deakins Bay, between the foot of the precipitous ridge described above, and the sandy head of the Bay. This is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile long by $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile wide. A portion of this is taken up by the lagoon. The rest is available, but portions look as

if it had been, exhausted
by previous cropping. This district
has the disadvantage of being as
nearly as possible cut off from
the rest of the island. There are
a few banana plantations, and a
few oranges, citrons, Chaddock and
other fruit trees. The floor of the
crater contains a good deal of
undulating or moderately level
land, but the eruption of 1868 has
deposited so much porous stone &
volcanic land over it as to entirely
spoil it for cultural purposes.

From Fleetwood Bluff in
the direction of Hutchinson Bluff
are a number of terraces separated
by ~~deep~~ deep gulches. These
terraces contain the best soil
on the island - in fact it is

of the richest description. It is
there where Mr. Bell has his
banana & yam plantations,
and is forming his grass
paddocks.

Wednesday, Aug 26. We left
Punday Island on the previous
evening about 9 o'clock, and reached
Macaulay Island about 8 o'clock this
morning. A landing was effected on
some rocks on the N. face of the island
and we at once made for some lava
which had flowed down a gulch into
the sea, and which seemed to form the
only practicable place to get up the
cliffs on to the top of the island.
We succeeded in getting up, and
found that the island was moderately
smooth, sloping away gradually from

The wetland, which is nearly 500 ft
high. The whole island is open, and
covered with grass. Two species are
the most common, but unfortunately,
neither of them were in flower, and
I was consequently unable to identify them.
They seemed to be a *Poa* & an *Agrostis*.

Plants brought from
L'Esperance by Danchels, ~~Sp~~
Aug 1882

Asplenium platyneuron
Senecio laetifolius
Mesembryanthemum austriacum
Agrostis sp.

Curtis' Island
Cardamine stylis
Parnassia palustris
Sonchus oleraceus
Apium austriacum
Mesembryanthemum austriacum

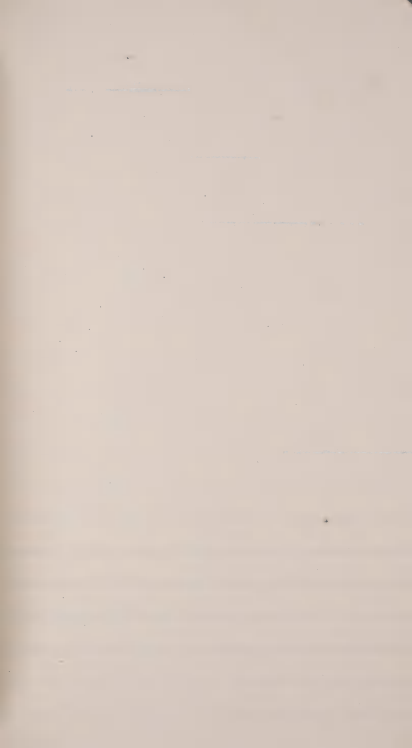
282 22



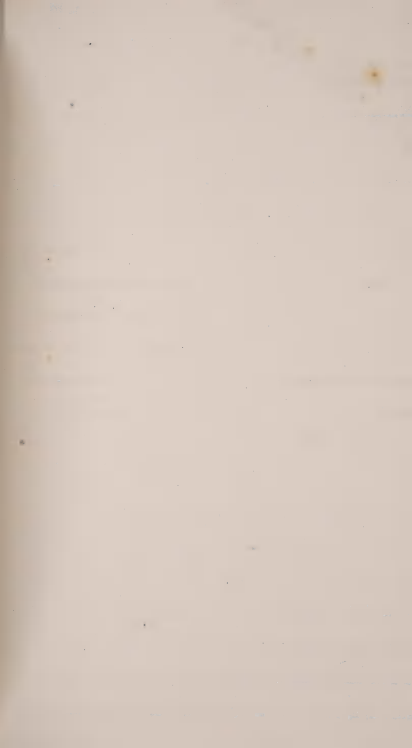
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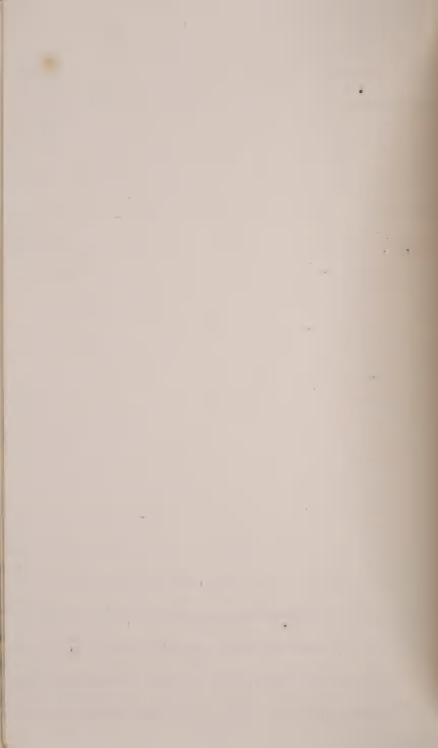
Railway fare 10/-

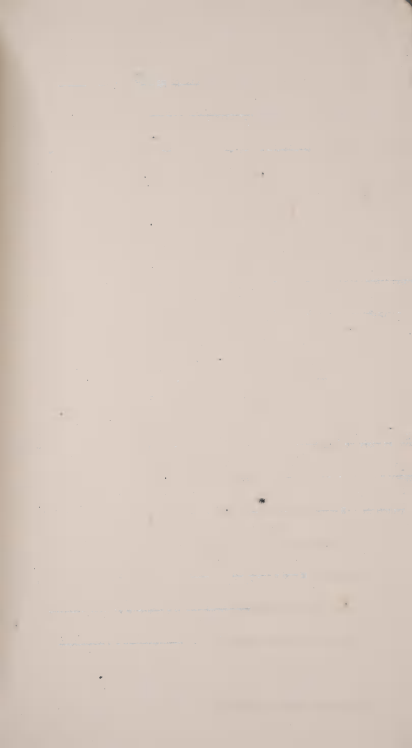
Return ticket Osprey 7/6.

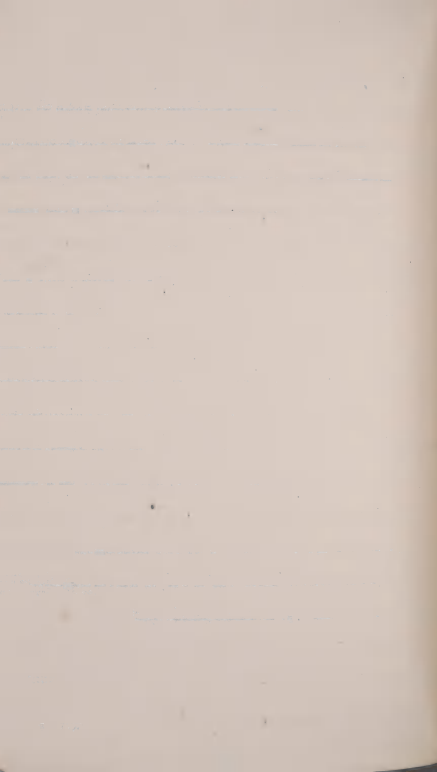


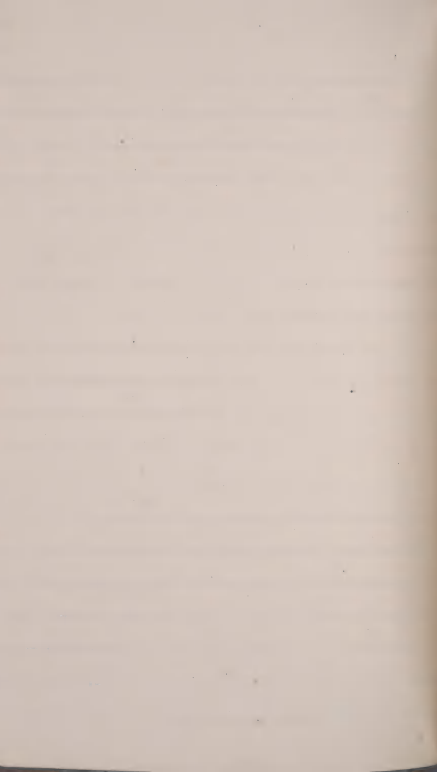


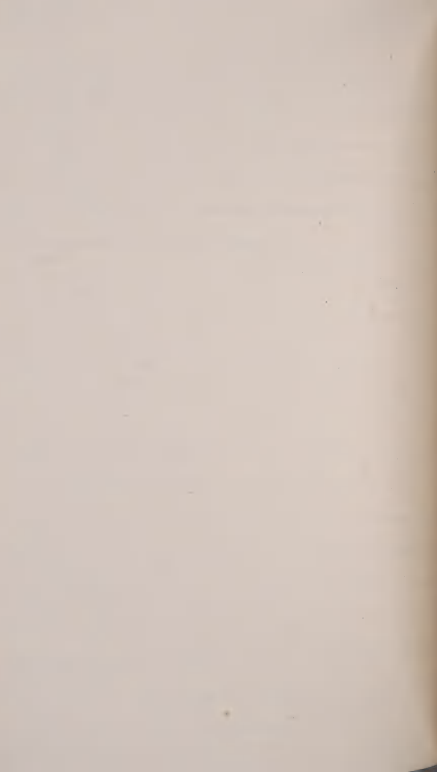


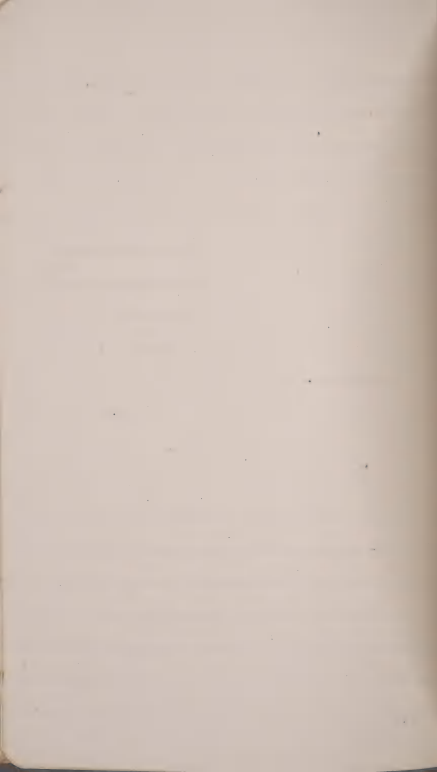


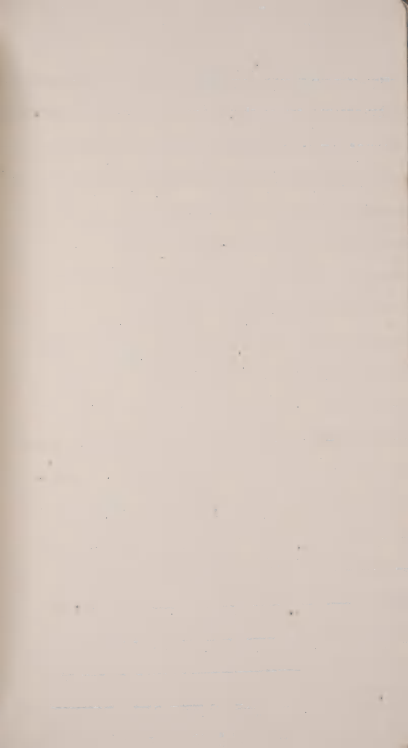


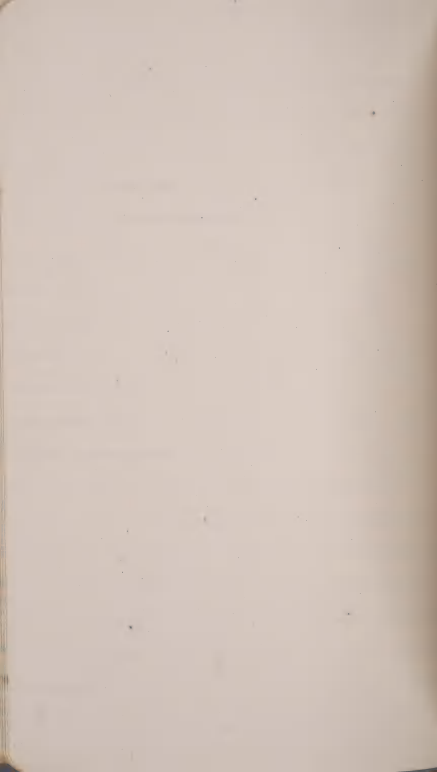
















Aluminate \$2. - for putting back.

Brown House

Germany - additional work -

Endorse

House - Boston

Payment for most of them

But the language is peculiar - the
present thought is that property
of the language of the children
and no one has been able to
explain clearly why some
sit for words just as they
do other parts of language. The
whole of the language has been
left, sharp, noticeable, it has
been called by the name, and
we all feel a little bit from

8 to 10 letters have been called
in the book

Learning to write 76 per week
with 4 am 6/10 per week.

Let's in the higher part of
order - have been with the
out of £120 - £60 per acre -

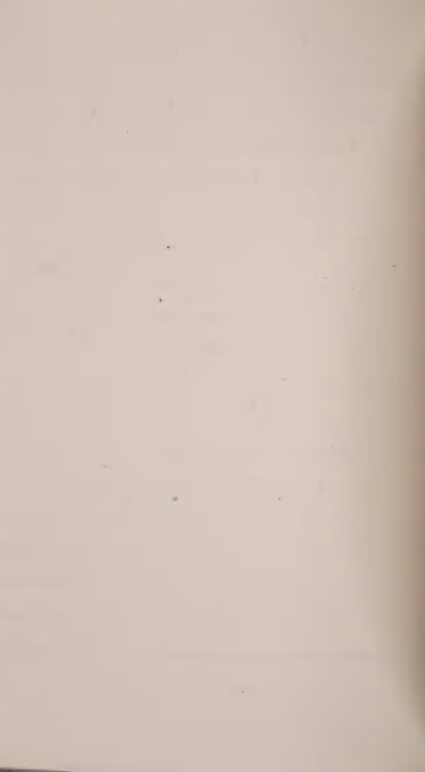
Shew further down in the
£60 - paid at £40.

Lowest price £40 per acre

~~One report~~ - ~~Boagville~~ perhaps
but the old stuff should go on, and
the other purchase may should be
used as good deposit in the name of
the person mentioned to himself, & the
rest with the remainder of the money,
and then applied for addition

Robert & Hamilton Co. - £20 per
acre. 13.4.2. have applied to
them for out for £750 - yesterday

Kindt Beach and steel -
for an all-weather model track.
- date 1700 -
Presented by Mr. Rogers.





hump above
better
themselves

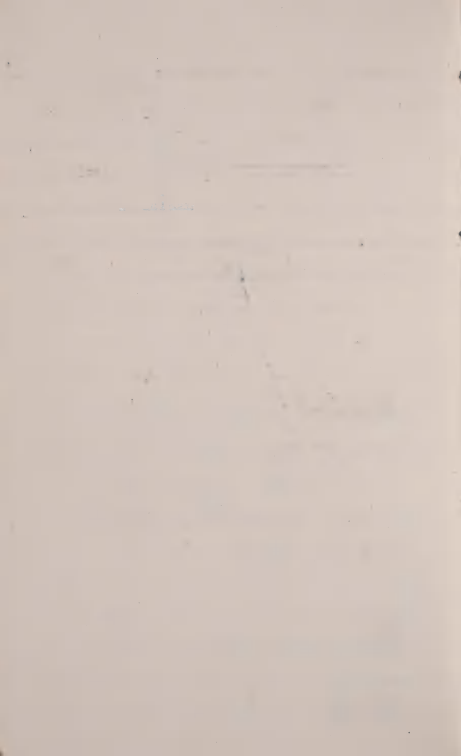
house of all kind.

forms - working in the morning

Buto and the day

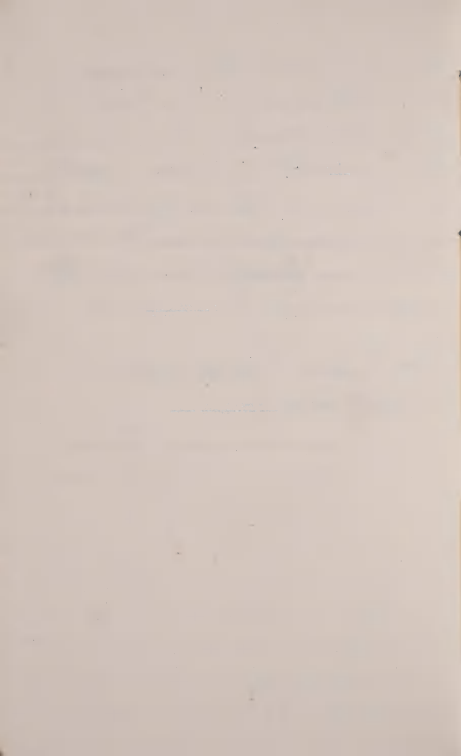
Wear off hat = change good to worse =
symptoms is not and, headless





7 + his stores - Luskbridge and his 25 bullocks - 42
hundred dollars one morning. - Morio's with
female features + Bowen's question - are they like
Vogel? - Connect being partners - coal at
West Wanganui and his 3 questions reasons why
should not pay - applicable also to Sulphur at
Whitoharua. - Bounty wharves and the ~~coal~~
penguins - 10,000,000 flem or 12 inlets

Hon. Mr Bowen to the 2nd in his cabin -
the reporter taken in





Monday h. 8. p.m.

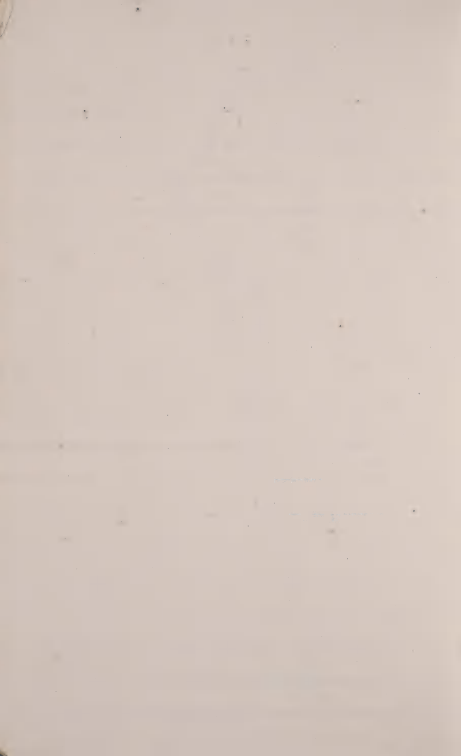




Black lava

Pale lignite.

Gravelly br. sh. & ss



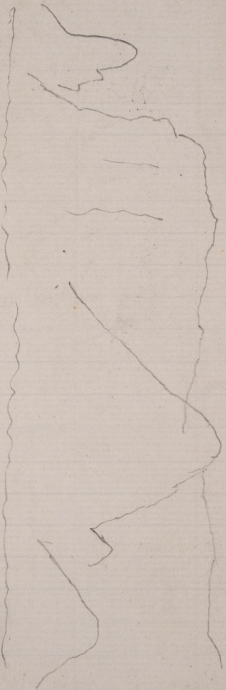
W. Milt. Carter





N. W. End of land

Mr Henry Phillips, Parkside



N. E. end of Ontario

